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# Indian Standard SYMBOLS FOR RUBBERS AND LATICES (First Revision)

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BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS MANAK BHAVAN, 9 BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG NEW DELHI 110002

### Indian Standard

## SYMBOLS FOR RUBBERS AND LATICES

## (First Revision)

#### O. FOREWORD

- **0.1** This Indian Standard (First Revision) was adopted by the Bureau of Indian Standards on 23 December 1988, after the draft finalized by the Rubber Sectional Committee had been approved by the Petroleum, Coal and Related Products Division Council.
- **0.2** This standard was originally published in 1972. In this revision, some new symbols have been added and all symbols prescribed in this standard, have been updated inaccordance with the latest international practice.
- 0.3 The object of this standard is to provide standardized symbols for basic rubbers both in dry and latex forms for use in industry, trade

and government. These symbols have been accepted at the international level. It is not intended to conflict with but rather to act as a supplement to existing trade names and trademarks.

- 0.4 Technical papers or presentations, the name of the polymer should be used, if possible. The symbols can follow the chemical name for use in later references.
- 0.5 This standard is based on ISO/DIS 1629-1985 'Rubbers and latices Nomenclature' issued by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

#### 1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard gives a general classification for the basic rubbers both in dry and latex form, based on the chemical composition of the polymer chain.

#### 2. CLASSIFICATION

- 2.1 Rubbers, in both dry and latex forms, are classified and coded on the basis of the chemical composition of polymer chain in the following manner:
  - M Rubbers having a saturated chain of the polymethylene type
  - N Rubbers having nitrogen in the polymer chain
  - O Rubbers having oxygen in the polymer chain
  - R Rubbers having an unsaturated carbon chain, for example, natural rubber and synthetic rubbers derived at least partly from diolefins
  - Q Rubbers having silicon and oxygen in the polymer chain
  - T Rubbers having sulphur in the polymer chain
  - U Rubbers having carbon, oxygen and nitrogen in the polymer chain
  - Z Rubbers having phosphorus and nitrogen in the polymer chain

#### 3. GROUP DESIGNATIONS

- 3.1 The 'M' group includes rubbers having a saturated chain of the polymethylene type. The following classification is used:
  - ACM Copolymer of ethylacrylate or other acrylates and a small amount of a monomer which facilitates vulcanization
  - ANM Ethylacrylate or other acrylate and acrylonitrile copolymer
  - CM Chloropolyethylene
  - CFM Polychlorotrifluoroethylene
  - CSM Chlorosulfonylpolyethylene
  - EAM Ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer
  - EPDM Terpolymer of ethylene, propylene, and a diene with the residual unsaturated portion of the diene in the side chain
  - EPM Ethylene-propylene copolymer
  - FPM Rubbers having fluoro and fluoroalkyl or fluoroalkoxy substituent groups on the polymer chain
  - IM Polyisobutene
- 3.2 The 'O' group includes rubbers having oxygen in the polymer chain. The following classification is used:
  - CO Polychloromethyloxiran (epichlorohydrin elastomer)

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- ECO Ethylene oxide (oxiran) and chloromethyloxiran (epichlorohydrin copolymer)
- GPO Copolymer of propylene oxide and allyl glycidyl ether
- 3.3 The 'R' group, in both dry and latex forms, is defined by inserting, before the word 'rubber' the name of the monomer or monomers from which the rubber was prepared (except for natural rubber). The letter immediately preceding the letter 'R' signifies the diolefin from which the rubber was prepared (except for natural rubber). Any letter or letters preceding the diolefin letter signifies the comonomer or comonomers. The following classification is used:
  - ABR Acrylate-butadiene rubbers
  - BR Butadiene rubbers
  - CR Chloroprene rubbers
  - IIR Isobutene-isoprene rubbers
  - IR Isoprene rubbers, synthetic
  - NBR Acrylonitrile-butadiene rubbers
  - NCR Acrylonitrile-chloroprene rubbers
  - NR Isoprene rubbers natural
  - PBR -- Vinylpyridine-butadiene rubbers
  - SBR Styrene-butadiene rubbers
  - SCR Styrene-chloroprene rubbers
  - SIR Styrene-isoprene rubbers
  - NIR Acrylonitrile-isoprene rubbers
  - PSBR Vinylpyridine-styrene-butadiene rubbers

Note - Carboxylic rubbers are identified by the prefix letter 'X'.

- **3.3.1** Rubbers having substitute carboxylic acid groups (COOH) on the polymer chain are classified as follows:
  - XBR Carboxylic-butadiene
  - XCR Carboxylic-chloroprene
  - XNBR Carboxylic-acrylonitrile-butadiene
  - XSBR Carboxylic-styrene-butadiene
- 3.3.2 Rubbers containing halogen on the polymer chains are classified as follows:
  - BIIR Bromo-isobutene-isoprene
  - CIIR Chloro-isobutene-isoprene
- 3.4 The 'Q' group, in both dry and latex forms, is defined by inserting the name of the substituent group on the polymer chain prior to

- silicone designation. The following classification is used:
  - FMQ Silicone rubbers having both methyl and fluorine substituent groups on the polymer chain
  - FVMQ Silicone rubbers having methyl, vinyl and fluorine substituent groups on the polymer chain
  - MQ Silicone rubbers having only methyl substituent groups on the polymer chain, such as dimethyl polysiloxane
  - PMQ Silicone rubbers having both methyl and phenyl substituent groups on the polymer chain
  - PVMQ Silicone rubbers having methyl, vinyl and phenyl substituent groups on the polymer chain
  - VMQ Silicone rubbers having both methyl and vinyl substituent groups on the polymer chain

Note — Insert initial for substituent group(s) on polymer chain to the left of the code letter for rubber with silicone and oxygen in the backbone (Q) in descending order of percent present, namely, largest nearest.

- 3.5 The 'U' group includes rubbers having carbon, oxygen and nitrogen in the polymer chain. The following classification is used:
  - AFMU Terpolymer of tetrafluoroethylene-trifluoronitrosomethane and nitroso-perfluorobutyric-acid
  - AU Polyester urethane
  - EU Polyether urethane
- 3.6 The 'T' group includes rubbers having carbon, oxygen and sulphur in the polymer chain. The following classification is used:
  - OT A rubber having either a CH<sub>2</sub>
    —OH<sub>2</sub> —O —CH<sub>2</sub> —O —CH<sub>2</sub>
    —CH<sub>2</sub> group or occasionally an R
    group, where R is an aliphatic
    hydrocarbon, not usually —CH<sub>2</sub>
    —CH<sub>2</sub> —, between the polysulfide
    linkages in the polymer chain
  - EOT A rubber having either a —CH<sub>2</sub>
    —CH<sub>2</sub> —O —CH<sub>2</sub> —O —CH<sub>2</sub>
    —CH<sub>2</sub> group and R groups which are usually —CH<sub>2</sub> —CH<sub>2</sub> —but occasionally other aliphatic groups between the polysulphide linkages in the polymer chain
- 3.7 The 'Z' group includes rubbers having phosphorus and nitrogen in the polymer chain.

The following classification is used:

- FZ A rubber having a P=N chain and having fluoroalkoxy groups attached to the phosphorus atoms in the chain
- PZ A rubber having a P—N—chain and having aryloxy (phenoxy and substituted phenoxy) groups attached to the phosphorus atoms in the chain

#### 4. THERMOPLASTIC RUBBERS

**4.1** Designations of rubbers in 3 shall be preceded by the letter Y if the rubbers consist essentially of polymers having a block, graft, segmented or other structure that imparts

rubber-like properties at room temperature whilst the rubber is in the unvulcanized state. For example:

- YSBR A block copolymer of styrene and butadiene
- YXSBR A block copolymer of styrene and butadiene containing carboxylic acid groups on the polymer chain
- 4.2 The designation Y shall not be assigned to materials whose rubber-like properties in the unchanged state rely on blending of polymers or on any other compounding techniques. In such cases, each component of the material shall be included in the designation.

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